





TC04-097

May 27, 2004

VIA EMAIL AND FIRST CLASS MAIL

Pamela Bonrud  
Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
Capitol Building, First Floor  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

RECEIVED

MAY 28 2004

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Cost Study for PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc.

Dear Ms. Bonrud:

In Docket No. TC02-087, by order dated November 13, 2003, PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc. ("PCT") was allowed to withdraw its intrastate access cost study filed in 2002. In that order the Commission required PCT to file a study based on a 2003 test year no later than July 1, 2004.

Attached hereto is PCT's 2004 study to comply with the Commission order. Certain material is deemed to be proprietary and confidential and has been so marked and protected.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William P. Heaston".

William P. Heaston  
General Counsel

CONFIDENTIAL

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**South Dakota Public Utilities Commission**  
**WEEKLY FILINGS**  
**For the Period of May 27, 2004 through June 2, 2004**

If you need a complete copy of a filing faxed, overnight expressed, or mailed to you, please contact  
Delaine Kolbo within five business days of this report. Phone: 605-773-3201

**ELECTRIC**

**EL04-020      In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions.**

On June 1, 2004, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Division of MDU Resources Group, Inc. (Montana-Dakota) filed updated cogeneration rates for Commission approval. Montana-Dakota is requesting approval to revise its Occasional Power Purchase Non-Time Differentiated Rate 95, Short-Term Power Purchase Time Differentiated Rate 96 and Long-Term Power Purchase Differentiated Rate 97. The filing is made in compliance with Commission Order F-3365 and in accordance with the Special Terms and Conditions of these tariffs.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris/Keith Senger

Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer

Date Filed: 06/01/04

Intervention Deadline: 06/18/04

**EL04-021      In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions.**

Application by Otter Tail Power Company (Otter Tail) for approval to revise its tariffed Summary List of Contracts with Deviations. The existing contract with the Village of Marvin will expire on July 2, 2004. Otter Tail states the new agreement does not contain any deviations from Otter Tail's currently filed tariff and therefore requests that reference to a contract with the Village of Marvin be removed from the Summary List of Contracts with Deviations.

Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson

Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer

Date Filed: 06/01/04

Intervention Deadline: 06/18/04

**NATURAL GAS**

**NG04-003      In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions.**

Application by MidAmerican Energy Company for approval of revised interruptible gas tariffs. MidAmerican's Small Volume Interruptible and Large Volume Interruptible natural gas sales tariffs currently contain language which would have them expire on June 26, 2004. This expiration was the result of the Commission's Order in Docket NG02-003 which directed MidAmerican to file a plan with the Commission to phase out interruptible natural gas tariffs within a two year time period. Coincident with the proposed tariff revisions, MidAmerican is filing a 2004 Interruptible Gas Rate Plan which is proposed to address the Commission's concerns in Docket NG02-003. In the Gas Rate Plan, MidAmerican proposes to retain interruptible rates but to change the methodology used in its determination so as to increase these rates. MidAmerican's Plan also proposes to add new optional rates for customers,

including those who may wish to switch rates as a result of the increase to interruptible rates. The new Gas Rate Plan is proposed to become effective 60 days after the effective date of tariffs approved in MidAmerican's current rate increase proceeding NG04-001. The interruptible rate changes which are the subject of this notice would replace the current tariff expiration date of June 26, 2004, with the proposed effective date of the 2004 Interruptible Gas Rate Plan as described above. MidAmerican has requested that these tariff revisions be approved with less than 30 days notice.

Staff Analyst: Dave Jacobson  
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer  
Date Filed: 06/01/04  
Intervention Deadline: 06/18/04

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS

**TC04-097      In the Matter of the Establishment of Switched Access Rates for PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc.**

On May 28, 2004, PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc., Irene, South Dakota, filed a switched access cost study pursuant to the rules established by the Commission.

Staff Analyst: Harlan Best  
Staff Attorney: Karen E. Cremer  
Date Filed: 05/28/04  
Intervention Deadline: 06/18/04

**TC04-098      In the Matter of the Filing by Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Southwestern Bell Long Distance for an Amended Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services in South Dakota.**

On June 1, 2004, Southwestern Bell Communications Services Inc. d/b/a Southwestern Bell Long Distance (SBLD) submitted a request for an amended Certificate of Authority. The original Certificate of Authority restricted SBLD from collecting deposits, advance payments, or offering prepaid calling cards. SBLD has submitted a surety bond in lieu of the restrictions and would like the Certificate of Authority amended to reflect the change.

Staff Analyst: Michele Farris  
Staff Attorney: Karen Cremer  
Date Filed: 06/01/04  
Intervention Deadline: 06/18/04

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You may subscribe or unsubscribe to the PUC mailing lists at <http://www.state.sd.us/puc>**

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT )</b>	<b>ORDER ASSESSING FILING</b>
<b>OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR )</b>	<b>FEE</b>
<b>PRAIRIEWAVE COMMUNITY TELEPHONE, )</b>	
<b>INC. )</b>	<b>TC04-097</b>

On May 28, 2004, PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc. (PrairieWave) filed for approval by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) its 2003 Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study.

On June 3, 2004, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 18, 2003, to interested individuals and entities.

SDCL 49-31-12.6 authorizes the Commission to require a deposit of up to one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's (SDPUC) regulatory assessment fee fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon this type of filing.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-1A-9, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07 and 20:10:27:08.

On June 22, 2004, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission, pursuant to SDCL 49-31-12.6, unanimously voted to assess PrairieWave a \$1,000 filing fee, subject to additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000. It is therefore

**ORDERED**, that PrairieWave shall deposit an initial assessment of \$1,000 in the SDPUC regulatory assessment fee fund and shall deposit any additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2004.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u><i>William Kelbo</i></u>
Date: <u>7/1/04</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*Robert K. Sahr*  
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman

*Gary Hanson*  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

*James A. Burg*  
JAMES A. BURG, Commissioner

## Kolbo, Delaine

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**From:** Rislov, Greg  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2004 10:04 AM  
**To:** Best, Harlan; Senger, Keith; Cremer, Karen  
**Cc:** Smith, John (PUC); Wiest, Rolayne; Kolbo, Delaine  
**Subject:** SWAC04-kc.doc

August 11, 2004

Karen Cremer  
Staff Attorney  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 E. Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Independent Telecommunications Companies Switched Access Dockets

Dear Ms. Cremer:

In 2003, in accordance with SDCL 49-31 and ARSD 20:10:27, filings were made by South Dakota telecommunications carriers and the Local Exchange Carriers Association to reflect and support changes in switched access rates.

In each docket Commission staff has or will request additional material necessary to evaluate the appropriateness of the filings. Commission advisory staff is, with this letter, requesting Commission staff to provide one copy of the material, which is also termed "Responses to Staff Data Requests," to me as a representative of the Commission advisory staff.

I would also request that staff forward a copy of this request to the appropriate consultants

Sincerely,

Greg Rislov,  
Commission Advisor

xc: John Smith, Commission Counsel  
Rolayne Wiest, Commission Counsel  
Harlan Best, Commission Staff  
Keith Senger, Commissioner Staff



Bob Sahr, Chair  
Gary Hanson, Vice-Chair  
Jim Burg, Commissioner

## SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070  
[www.state.sd.us/puc](http://www.state.sd.us/puc)

Capitol Office  
(605) 773-3201  
(605) 773-3809 fax

Transportation/Warehouse  
(605) 773-5280  
(605) 773-3225 fax

Consumer Hotline  
1-800-332-1782

August 12, 2004

Greg Rislov  
Commission Advisor  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 E. Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: 2003 Switched Access Dockets

Dear Mr. Rislov:

Enclosed please find a copy of the responses Staff has received in the above-referenced dockets. These copies are provided to you pursuant to your email dated August 11, 2004, requesting such documents. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Cremer  
Staff Attorney

cc: Harlan Best  
Keith Senger  
Parties of record



Bob Sahr, Chair  
Gary Hanson, Vice-Chair  
Jim Burg, Commissioner

## SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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### MEMORANDUM TO COMMISSIONERS SAHR, HANSON AND BURG

FROM: Harlan Best, Utility Analyst

RE: PrairieWave Community Telephone, Irene, SD  
Switched Access Revenue Requirement, TC04-097

DATE: October 18, 2004

PrairieWave Community Telephone (PrairieWave) filed an Intrastate Switched Access Cost Study pursuant to ARSD Chapters 20:10:27 to 20:10:29, inclusive on May 28, 2004, based on the twelve months ended December 31, 2003. The cost study submitted by PrairieWave developed a revenue requirement of \$2,301,084. PrairieWave's intrastate access minutes of use for 2003 were 18,064,005. PrairieWave is not a member of the Local Exchange Carrier Association (LECA), but since PrairieWave is a cost schedule company its revenue requirement and minutes of use are used to determine the overall cost company rates used by the average schedule companies to arrive at the revenue requirement for the LECA member average schedule companies and the cost company rate elements to be used by average schedule company not part of LECA (the rate elements for Kadoka Telephone Company).

On June 3, 2004, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 18, 2004, to interested individuals and entities. No parties filed to intervene. On June 22, 2004, the Commission voted to assess PrairieWave a \$1000 filing fee, subject to additional amounts as requested by the Executive Director up to the statutory limit of \$100,000. (Any questions regarding the amount expended should be addressed to Heather Forney.)

Staff has reviewed the cost study filed by PrairieWave, sent data requests, and reviewed the responses submitted by PrairieWave. Based on Staff's review and the data responses the cost study submitted by PrairieWave should be modified to correct Accumulated Depreciation, Central Office Equipment Depreciation Expense, and Cable and Wire Facilities Depreciation Expense; to assign McCord Red Carpet Dues, Telephone Relay Service and the FCC Regulatory Fee to the interstate jurisdiction; to allocate Customer Services Expense on the same basis as prior studies; to update working loops, circuit miles, and circuit terminations; to correct an interstate allocation factor; to update the Department of Revenue's Gross Receipts Tax percentage to 4%; and to include a non-recurring cost study amount.

The above adjustments reduce the revenue requirement of PrairieWave to \$2,267,613. This revenue requirement is acceptable to PrairieWave.

Respectively submitted by Harlan Best

cc William Heaston, General Counsel for PrairieWave

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTABLISHMENT )	ORDER APPROVING
OF SWITCHED ACCESS RATES FOR )	SWITCHED ACCESS RATES
PRAIRIEWAVE COMMUNITY TELEPHONE, )	
INC. )	TC04-097

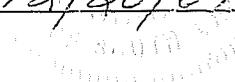
On May 28, 2004, PrairieWave Community Telephone, Inc. (PrairieWave) filed a switched access cost study pursuant to the rules established by the Commission.

On June 3, 2004, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of June 18, 2004, to interested individuals and entities. No comments or petitions to intervene were filed. The Commission considered this matter at its December 14, 2004, meeting. Commission Staff recommended approval.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL 1-26-17.1, 49-31-12.4, 49-31-12.6, 49-31-18, 49-31-19 and ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, 20:10:01:15.05, 20:10:27:07, 20:10:27:08, 20:10:27:11 and 20:10:27:12. Upon review of PrairieWave's filing, the Commission found that the revised switched access rates were fair and reasonable and should be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that PrairieWave's revised switched access rates are hereby approved, effective as of the date of this order.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2004.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u><i>Delvin Kalbo</i></u>
Date: <u>12/20/04</u>
 (OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*Robert K. Sahr*  
ROBERT K. SAHR, Chairman *sk*

*Gary Hanson*  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner